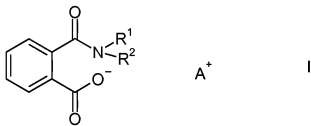


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-12. (canceled).

13. (previously presented): A method of inhibiting vapor-space corrosion in internal combustion engines, which method comprises introducing into the cooling channels of the engine an aqueous coolant containing ammonium salts of phthalic acid monoamides of the following formula (I),



where R1 and R2 may be identical or different and are hydrogen or a linear or branched, cyclic or acyclic C1-C20-alkyl radical and A⁺ is an ammonium cation.

14. (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the amides according to formula I as used during the run-in phase, after which the coolant is drained from the cooling circulation of the engine.

15. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ammonium salt of the phthalic acid monoamide of the formula (I) is present in an amount of ~~less than~~ ≤ 10 % by weight or less in the coolant.

16. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the ammonium salt is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

17. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the ammonium salt is present in an amount of from 0.2 to 1.5 % by weight.

18. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein ammonium salts of phthalic acid monoamides of the formula (I), where R1 and R2 are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-hexyl or 2-ethylhexyl, are used.

19. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein an ammonium salt of a monoamide of the formula (I), where R1 and R2 are different from one another and are methyl and 2-ethylhexyl, is used.

20. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ammonium ion A⁺ is a cation of the type [NHR₃R₄R₅]⁺, where R₃, R₄ and R₅ may be identical or different and may be hydrogen or a linear or branched, cyclic or acyclic alkyl radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, it being possible for the alkyl radicals to be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more OH substituents.

21. (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the ammonium ion is selected from the group consisting of NH₄⁺, mono-, di- and trialkylammonium cations having 1 to 5 carbon atoms per alkyl radical and mono-, di- and trialkanolammonium cations having 1 to 5 carbon atoms per alkyl radical.

22. (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of NH₄⁺ and ethanolammonium cations.

23. (previously presented): The method according to claim 20 wherein A is the ammonium or the triethylammonium cation.

24. – 37. (Canceled)